

Down-To-Earth (Vic) Cooperative Society Limited

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: **4 February 2021**

Time: **7:30pm**

Venue: **by Zoom**

Online: **https://data.dte.org.au/meeting/current_meeting/portal.php**

#	Item	
1.	<u>Meeting Started</u>	
	7:44 pm	
2.	<u>Meeting Coordinators</u>	
	Chairperson: Gary Lasky Minute Keeper: Kathy Ernst	
3.	<u>Acknowledgement of Country</u>	
	We gather on the lands of many Aboriginal Nations. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. Indigenous sovereignty has never been ceded in Australia and we should endeavour to be mindful of this in everything we do, given our focus is gathering to create better ways of living in our society, not just for festival attendees but for all.	
4.	<u>Attendance</u>	
	Kathy Ernst Elisa Brock left 10pm Suzie Helson Coral Larke left 9:30pm Gary Lasky Troy Reid left 10pm Kate Schapiro left 10pm	Lance Nash Peter Tippett John Magor Rick Gill Robin McPherson Malcolm Matthews John Reid Jack Wells Darrylle Ryan
5.	<u>Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes</u>	
	1) 03/12/2020 Not ready	
	2) 25/11/2020 Moved : Kathy Seconded: Coral PBC	
	3) 21/01/2021 Moved : Eliza Seconded: Kathy PBC	
6.	<u>Matters Arising from minutes of previous Board Meeting</u>	

1) No matters arising (covered under action points)

7. Correspondence / Payments

- 1) 20201001 Bendigo Bank Merchant Statement
- 2) 20201015 Essential Energy re Wooroom planned power outage
- 3) 20201022 ANZ Bank re WAL4587
- 4) 20201026 Red Energy re Bylands
- 5) 20201102 Bendigo Bank Merchant Statement
- 6) 20201106 Origin Energy re Woorooma meter reading
- 7) 20201127 NSW Valuer General Amalgamation of Properties for Rating Purposes
- 8) 20201130 Edward River Council Rates Harmonisation
- 9) 20201130 Murray NRM News 18
- 10) 20201202 Bendigo Bank Merchant Statement
- 11) 20201206 Bank Australia Newsletter
- 12) 20201207 Tania Morsman complaint re AGM 2020 chairing
- 13) 20201208 Murray LLS Production Advice Edition 55
- 14) 20201210 Bank Australia Term Deposit Certificate
- 15) 20201210 Robin Macpherson re DTE Bank Signatories
- 16) 20201215 Peter Tippett
- 17) 20201216 NSW Land Registry Services
- 18) 20201218 NSW LLS Regional Roundup Edition 15
- 19) 20201222 Edward River Council Rates Harmonisation Breakfast
- 20) 20201223 Bank Australia Newsletter
- 21) 20201223 Murray LLS Mailbag Edition 14
- 22) 20201230 NRAR Directions Compliance Confirmation
- 23) 20210104 Bendigo Bank Merchant Statement
- 24) 20210107 Tania Morsman complaint re Redd Consultancy management

8. Matters arising from Correspondence

- 1) Tania's correspondence regarding minutes redacted on data.dte.org.au
Troy explained that the minutes have not been redacted, they have been moved.
Members are unaware of the link to find the minutes.
Two action points raised – answer for Tania and request for information from ICT.

9. Action Task List Review

- 1) 25/11/2020 **Memcom**
Memcom to contact Members who are not currently recognised as active and reach out and work out ways we maybe able **IN PROGRESS**
- 2) 19/11/2020 **Complaints**
There is nothing more to report at the moment - Grant will respond re the three complainants directly **BEING COMPLETED BY KATHY – One complaint answered – Two to go – waiting for Board agenda items to be discussed**
- 3) 05/10/2020 **ICDA Subscription**
- 20200911 ICDA subscription renewal notice 230.00 **ONGOING**

- 4) 7/01/2021 Kate to complete minutes for 3/12/2020 **ONGOING**
- 5) 7/01/2021 Troy to forward the Annual Updates to Consumer Affairs **ONGOING**
- 6) 7/01/2021 Troy to write Letter to Tania as specified by the Motion by Circular proposed by Mark on 9/12/2020. **Replaced by action item 14 being done by Coral**
- 7) 11/01/2021 Kate to supply the information requested on 3/12/2020 i.e. "That Kathy Ernst, and any other director or director-elect wanting the information, is provided with the brief given to Redd Consulting. If there was no written brief, this should be stated and a summary of the verbal brief be given. This must be done within seven days". **NO ACTION - REMOVE**
- 8) 11/01/2021 Kate to take the lead on formulating an appropriation motion with other directors to have active input. **ONGOING**
- 9) 11/01/2021 Jack and Isaac to keep in contact while Jack is the only person on site. **COMPLETED**
- 10) 11/01/2021 John Reid and Isaac to work on fixing the site phone. **ONGOING (working with Troy)**
- 11) 21/01/2021 Coral to complete minutes for 25/11/2020 **COMPLETED**
- 12) 21/01/2021 Follow up OC registration of trailer in March
- 13) 21/01/2021 Coral to contact Bendigo Bank re removal of David Cruise as a signatory. **IN PROGRESS**
- 14) 21/01/2021 Coral to redraft the letter to Tania as specified by the Motion by Circular proposed by Mark on 9/12/2020. **IN PROGRESS**
- 15) 21/01/2021 Suzie to send a letter to GSC asking them to investigate a Covid Safety Plan for Warooma and Bylands. **COMPLETED**
- 16) 21/01/2021 Troy to send out an email regarding a GSC meeting to be held on 27 January at 7:30pm. **NOT DONE**
- 17) 21/01/2021 Board discussion on 26 January at 4:30pm to discuss single person on site. **COMPLETED**
- 18) 21/01/2021 Kathy to defer action on Redd Consulting until after the 26/1/2021 Board discussion. **COMPLETED**

10.	<u>Motions by Circular</u>
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- 1) 28/01/2021 "that the Redd Consulting investigation report distributed to directors on 28 January 2021 be kept confidential and must not be redistributed or shared or disclosed to any other person, in whole or in part, beyond the seven directors of the Board."

Proposed: Troy Supported: Kate, Coral, Elisa, Suzie, Kathy

Motions and Agenda Items

11. 13005 Redd Consulting report

DETAILS:

The Redd Consulting report has been distributed to all directors. We need to decide how to distribute information contained in the report. The people involved have been waiting a long time and we need to do this ASAP. I have conducted a Doodle Poll. Only four people responded but 9 February is the date on which all four can attend.

MOTION:

That the Board has a private discussion regarding distribution of the Redd Consulting report on 9th February at 7:30pm.

MOVED: Kathy Seconded: Troy PBC

12. 12989 Safety – Gas bottles and fuel

DETAILS:

Fuel and gas bottles are not safely stored at Warooma. This has been talked about many times over many years, and there have been good ideas for safe storage, but nothing has been done.

Organising safe storage should be an OC matter, but the Board could be held responsible in case of accident. DTE could also be fined for not complying with regulations, but the most important is personal safety. This is one case where Board oversight is justified.

MOTION:

That the Board writes to the OC requesting that they prioritise safe storage of fuel and gas and that the OC has detailed plans ready in time to include the cost in the appropriation motions for the June SGM or earlier.

MOVED: Kathy Seconded: Suzie PBC

13. 12983 Reply to complaint by Mark Helson and Denise Banville lodged on 15 September 2020

DETAILS:

I would like to action some of the action task on the Board's action task list. Mark and Denise have not yet received a response to their complaint.

MOTION: That the Board writes to Mark Helson and Denise Banville advising that the motion which formed the basis of their complaint has been rescinded.

MOVED: Kathy Seconded: Troy PBC

14. 12984 Board to review financial transactions referred to it by members

MOTION:

That the Board undertakes to review any financial transactions referred to it by members and that the Board can decide to either make a decision about the appropriateness of that spending or refer the transaction to the relevant standing committee if the Board deems that more appropriate.

MOVED: Kathy Seconded: Suzie Failed

15. 12985 Reply to complaint by Deb Moerkerken, John Magor and Tania Morsman

DETAILS:

I would like to action some of the action task on the Board's action task list. Deb, John and Tania have not yet received a response to their complaint.

MOTION:

That the Board writes to Deb Moerkerken, John Magor and Tania Morsman advising that the Board can review any financial transaction referred to it by members and suggesting that they refer any specific examples to the Board. The letter should include an apology for the delay in responding and offering them a meeting with the Board if they wish.

MOVED: Kathy Seconded: Suzie PBC

16. Carried Resolutions

- 1) That the Board has a private discussion regarding distribution of the Redd Consulting report on 9th February at 7:30pm.
- 2) That the Board writes to the OC requesting that they prioritise safe storage of fuel and gas and that the OC has detailed plans ready in time to include the cost in the appropriation motions for the June SGM or earlier.
- 3) That the Board writes to Mark Helson and Denise Banville advising that the motion which formed the basis of their complaint has been rescinded.
- 4) That the Board writes to Deb Moerkerken, John Magor and Tania Morsman advising that the Board can review any financial transaction referred to it by members and suggesting that they refer any specific examples to the Board. The letter should include an apology for the delay in responding and offering them a meeting with the Board if they wish.

17. Actions Tasks from this meeting

- 2) 04/02/2021 Coral to write to Tania stating that the minutes were not redacted; the minutes were moved to another location.
- 3) 04/02/2021 Gary to write to ICT asking for recommendations on how to block DTE minutes from inclusion in search engine results.
- 4) 04/02/2021 Suzie to write to OC informing them of the motion about storage of gas bottles and fuel.
- 5) 04/02/2021 Kathy to write to Mark Helson and Denise Banville advising that the motion which formed the basis of their complaint has been rescinded.

6) 04/02/2021 Kathy to write to Deb Moerkerken, John Magor and Tania Morsman apologizing for the delay in responding to their complaint, advising that the Board can review any financial transaction referred to it by members, suggesting that they refer any specific examples to the Board and offering them a meeting with the Board if they wish.

18. Next Meeting Date & Time Confirmation

Thursday 4 March 2021 at 7:30 pm

19. Meeting Ended

10:01